

REMARKS

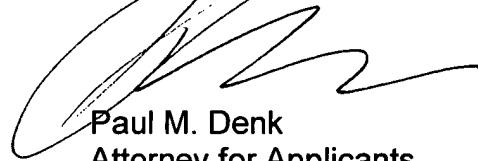
Essentially, claims 1, 2 and 3 of this application have been cancelled, consolidated into new claim 14, and have added the further structural definition that there is a forced pressure fit between the shelving, and the vertical rods, in that the contact each other, when the forced and pressure fitting between these components is made in the assembly of the freestanding wire rack. It is this forcing of the shelving against the inner edges of the vertical rods in each end frame, when the shelf is forced into assembled position, and this in effect adds stability in the structural integrity of the freestanding wire rack, when assembled.

It is to be noted that in the Jurasek reference, which the examiner cites as providing anticipatory prior art, the shelving 18, 19, 26, 27, and 92, all appear to simply rest upon their cross rods, with the cross rods being staggered one above the other, and in this manner, there can not be any pressure fit between any of these particular shelves, and the vertical rods 33a, 33b, 34a, and 34b, when a shelf is located into position. In fact, as you can see for the shelves 18, 19, 26, and 92, their front downwardly depending portions, as at 61 and 62, especially at their front, do not even make contact with the front vertical rods 33a and 33b, much less be pressure fitted against them. Unlike the prior art, when the primary feature of the current invention, the forced contact and pressure fitting between the vertical rods, and the shelving, is just not attained in any manner or even suggested in the Jurasek reference.

The remaining claims of this application all set forth further definition for the structure of this invention, in claims that are either directly or indirectly dependant upon this newly added claim 14.

The examiner's further review of this matter would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul M. Denk
Attorney for Applicants
Pat. Off. Reg. No. 22,598
763 South New Ballas Road, Ste. 170
St. Louis, Missouri 63141
(314) 872-8136

PMD/tb